

Message Text

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TSPA, NZ

SUBJECT: CIVILIAN OPERATION OF BAKER NUNN STATION

REFS: A) STATE 067121 B) WELLINGTON 0377

1. EMBOFF AGAIN DISCUSSED CIVILIAN OPERATION OF MT. JOHN WITH ALLAN DOYLE, ACTING HEAD, MFA LEGAL DIVISION, APRIL 9. DOYLE WAS GIVEN AIDE MEMOIRE COVERING POINTS MADE REFTEL A. DOYLE'S POSITION REMAINS AS REPORTED REFTEL B., I.E., CIVILIN CONTRACTOR WOULD BE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS ANY PRIVATE FOREIGN FIRM OPERATING IN NEW ZEALAND AND WOULD BE SUBJECT TO LOCAL REGULATIONS. MAJOR PROBLEM FOR GNZ, ACCORDING TO DOYLE, IS FACT THAT NEW ZEALAND LAW CONTAINS NO BASIS FOR ALLOWING EXEMPTION. WERE EXEMPTION TO BE GRANTED, GNZ WOULD FIRST HAVE TO AMEND LEGISLATION. EMBASSY SEES NO POSSIBILITY FOR PASAGE OF SUCH AN AMENDMENT UNDER PRESENT GOVERNMENT.

2. NEW ZEALAND TAXES TEND TO BE HIGHER THAN US TAXES FOR MIDDLE RANGE WAGE EARNERS. MARRIED MAN WITH TWO CHILDREN EARNING US \$12,000 PER YEAR WOULD PAY APPROXIMATELY US \$2,750 IN INCOME TAXES. TAX ON COMPANY PROFITS IS 49 PERCENT FOR COMPANIES REGISTERED IN NEW ZEALAND AND 51 PERCENT FOR THOSE REGISTERED IN FOREIGN COUNTRY. CUSTOMS DUTIES AND SALES TAXES ON AUTOMOBILES VARIES ACCORD-
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ING ENGINE SIZE AS FOLLOWS: LESS THAN 1350CC-113 PERCENT;

1350CC TO 2000CC-128 PERCENT; 2000CC TO 2700CC-152 PERCENT; OVER 2700CC-171 PERCENT. DUTIES AND TAXES BASED ON VALUE OF VEHICLE AS DETERMINED BY ASSESSORS ON LANDING IN NEW ZEALAND. DUTIES ARE CHARGED ON HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS (HHE) COMING INTO NEW ZEALAND. ATTEMPTING TO ESTIMATE AMOUNT OF DUTIES IS DIFFICULT DUE TO NUMBER OF VARIABLES INVOLVED IN MAKE UP OF HHE, AGE OF VARIOUS ITEMS, ETC. CUSTOMS OFFICIALS INDICATE AVERAGE DUTY ON HHE IS ABOUT US\$200. IF HHE ARE REEXPORTED WITHIN ONE YEAR OF LANDING,, REMISSION OF ENTIRE DUTY CAN BE CLAIMED. IF HHE ARE REEXPORTED BETWEEN 12 AND 24 MONTHS AFTER LANDING PRO RATA REMISSION OF DUTY CAN BE CLAIMED.

3. ON PLUS SIDE OF LEDGER, FOLLOWING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. GNZ PAYS FAMILY ALLOWANCE OF APPROXIMATELY US\$4.00 WEEKLY FOR EACH CHILD UNDER 16. PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES ARE FREE. NATIONAL ACCIDENT COMPENSATION SCHEME IS "NO FAULT" PLAN COVERING EVERYONE IN NEW ZEALAND. PLAN PAYS HOSPITALIZATION COSTS ARISING FROM ACCIDENTS AND, IN CASE OF WORK RELATED ACCIDENTS, PAYS WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION. SELDEN

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